



Mishawaka Communicator

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Working together to build the "Best Hometown in America" by delivering exceptional services, promoting safe and clean neighborhoods, elevating the quality of life, and inspiring pride in our community.

Mishawaka, Indiana

Jeff Rea, Mayor

January 2010

A Letter from Mayor Jeff Rea

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

The City of Mishawaka received great news this month from Business Week Magazine. The magazine ranked Mishawaka second in the State of Indiana in their annual ranking as the best places to raise your kids, runner-up to Fishers, IN. To view the article and check out the best Cities around the country, go to www.businessweek.com and search on best places to raise your kids.



As Mishawaka residents, we have long known that this is a great community to raise a family. We are excited that others have also recognized this and we are honored to make the Business Week list. It is a testament to our citizens, our City leaders, and City employees that Mishawaka ranks high on this list.

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Snow Plowing Reminders

- Remember our City snow plows must push the snow from the center of the road to the edge, so it might be best to wait to shovel your sidewalks until our snow plows have completely finished plowing your street as close to the curb as they can go. This is usually two passes per side of the street. That way you will not have to re-shovel your sidewalks after the plows go through.
- Also remember that *unfortunately* our City snow plows may plow your driveway closed – (*and we will apologize now if we do*) but our major concern when plowing is to keep our City streets **open and safe as possible** for the motoring public and for our public safety personnel.
- Please remember that it is difficult for snowplow drivers to see children and that sometimes it is difficult to hear snowplows as they approach
- Children should move into a safe area as snowplows approach
- When clearing snow, pile it on your property - it should not be shoveled onto the sidewalk or street



nixle

Register online for this free service to receive up-to-the-minute neighborhood information where you live, work and visit.
www.nixle.com

Trash Questions?
Call BFI at 800-888-5783
Or the Street Department
258-1660



In 2010 the U.S. Census Bureau will issue a call to action for every resident of our nation: "Be Counted". The 2010 Census is important. It determines the distribution of \$300 billion annually of government funding for critical community services, and also generates thousands of jobs across our country. For more information about Census jobs, or on how to become a 2010 Census partner, go to www.census.gov/2010.

A Letter From Mayor Jeff Rea (continued)

According to businessweek.com, the selections were limited to towns that had at least 45,000 residents and a median income between \$40,000 and \$125,000. Data used included school performance, number of schools, household expenditures, crime rates, air quality, job growth, family income, museums, parks, theaters, other amenities and diversity. Affordability, safety, and test scores were given the greatest weight.

What is notable about being recognized by Business Week Magazine is that we compete with many suburban areas that are new by City infrastructure standards, with significantly higher median incomes, and virtually no poverty. Although many from outside of our community view Mishawaka as a regional area of commerce, our City also prides itself on strong, safe, and affordable residential neighborhoods. I also think that it is important to note that this ranking was not something that the City applied for; it is solely based on Business Week's research and rankings.

Congratulations to each of you for your part in this great honor. Thank you for choosing Mishawaka as your home and for working with us to build this great hometown. Our work has only begun, and we need your help as head into the future, and as we continue to show the rest of the world what a great town this is.



Battell Calendar



New Adult & Children's Class Sessions begin at Battell Center starting January 4

Ice skating & tubing will be open weather permitting.



January 21st – Learn Sewing Basics. Simple Apron

Call Battell Center for more details at 258-1667.

Winter Time in Mishawaka

Abandoned Vehicles

Unfortunately for all of us, winter is a time when vehicles are more apt to break down. If this happens on a public street please get the vehicle removed as soon as possible so the City's plow trucks can adequately remove snow from our streets.

Vehicles kept on private property must be properly plated and operable. No vehicles of any kind can be parked in the front yard. If a vehicle is not properly plated and operable, it must be stored in a garage, (not just covered by a tarp). Any vehicles that are not properly plated or operable and are located on the streets or alleys (public rights-of-way) should be called in to the Mishawaka Police Department – non emergency – 258-1678.

Shoveling Sidewalks

Sidewalks must be shoveled and cleared of snow within 24 hours after each snowfall according to City Ordinance, which is enforced by our Mishawaka Code Enforcement Department. Snow accumulation on sidewalks can be a hazard to children and to our elderly.

Business owners are also responsible for keeping the walks cleared in front of their storefront. If you have contracted individuals to plow your lot, please make sure that they do not deposit plowed snow across walks or ingress or egress points.

Good Neighbor Tips

- Be a good neighbor and lend a hand to those who may not be physically able to shovel or who may find walking to the store or bus stop too treacherous because of the snow or ice.
- Keep your children safe - don't let them play in the snow piles or on the snow banks at the side of the road
- Children should never build snow forts near the street and should never put a roof on a snow fort.

Reminder

If you live in an area with new curbs and sidewalks you should NOT use any kind of de-icing salts on them to remove snow and ice for at least one year. It could cause damage to the surface of the concrete. Just use a shovel to remove the snow.

